

I claim:

1. A method for delivering by a delivery service, a first message from a sender having a sender address to a recipient having a first recipient address

5 comprising the steps of:

receiving the first message by the delivery service;

determining that the first message is undeliverable to the first recipient address;

adding access information of a locator service to the first message; and,

10 providing the first message having said access information to the sender address.

2. A method, as set forth in claim 1, wherein said access information is one of a machine readable code, telephone number, postal address, e-mail address, 15 domain name, and URI and assists the sender in locating the recipient.

3. A method, as set forth in claim 1, wherein the sender address and the first recipient address is an e-mail address and the delivery service is an e-mail messaging system.

20 4. A method, as set forth in claim 3, wherein said step of determining that the first message is undeliverable further includes the step of determining that said recipient e-mail address is unknown.

25 5. A method, as set forth in claim 3, wherein said step of adding said access information further includes the steps of parsing contact information of the recipient from said undeliverable first message, generating at least one URI from said parsed contact information, and adding said generated URI to the first message.

6. A method, as set forth in claim 5, further including the steps of generating a second message having said generated URI, and providing said second message to the sender address.

5 7. A method, as set forth in claim 6, wherein providing said second message to the sender address assists the sender in locating the recipient.

8. A method, as set forth in claim 6, wherein said step of generating said second message further includes the step of generating from said generated URI 10 one of a hyperlink reference, redirect command, and advertisement.

9. A method, as set forth in claim 8, further including the step of adding said one of a hyperlink reference, redirect command, and advertisement to said second message.

15 10. A method, as set forth in claim 5, wherein said generated URI includes a query portion having said parsed contact information.

20 11. A method, as set forth in claim 5, wherein said parsed contact information includes one of a Vcard, signature file, postal address, and the first recipient address.

12. A method, as set forth in claim 5, wherein said generated URI corresponds to the first recipient address.

25 13. A method, as set forth in claim 12, further including the steps of deploying a search agent to said generated URI and parsing said contact information of the recipient from said generated URI.

30 14. A method, as set forth in claim 1, wherein the recipient includes a plurality of e-mail addresses and said step of determining that the first message is

undeliverable further includes the step of determining that at least one e-mail address is unknown from said plurality of e-mail addresses.

15. A method, as set forth in claim 1, further including the step of generating a
5 second recipient address corresponding to the first recipient address.

16. A method, as set forth in claim 1, wherein providing the first message further includes the steps of notifying the sender that the first recipient address is unknown and prompting the sender with possible solutions for finding current
10 contact information of the recipient.

17. A method, as set forth in claim 1, wherein the sender address and the first recipient address is a postal address and the delivery service is a postal service.

15 18. A method, as set forth in claim 17, wherein said step of adding said access information further includes the step of selecting from one of a inking said access information to the message and attaching said access information to the message.

20 19. An apparatus for delivering by a delivery service, a first message from a sender having a sender address to a recipient having a first recipient address comprising:

a processor;

a memory in operative association with said processor;

25 means for receiving the first message by the delivery service;

means for determining that the first message is undeliverable to the first recipient address;

means for adding access information of a locator service to the first message; and,

30 means for providing the first message having said access information to the sender address.

20. A computer program product for delivering by a delivery service, a first message from a sender having a sender address to a recipient having a first recipient address comprising:

- 5 means for retrieving content from a computer network;
- means for receiving the first message by the delivery service;
- means for determining that the first message is undeliverable to the first recipient address;
- means for adding access information of a locator service to the first message; and,
- 10 means for providing the first message having said access information to the sender address.